

## **NOVEMBER 2009 PRESS RELEASES**

---

For immediate release: Nov 04, 2009  
Posted by: [DHS]  
Contact: John Erickson or Rachel Meyer  
Phone: (317) 234-6713  
Email: [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov)

### **FEMA Denies Disaster Declaration Appeal**

---

#### **Governor to Request SBA Assistance**

INDIANAPOLIS – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) notified the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) that the appeal for federal disaster assistance has been denied. The decision affects individual and public assistance grants to Hoosiers in southern and central Indiana who experienced damage from severe weather Aug. 4-9.

In response to the denial, Governor Daniels will submit a request for assistance from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

Federal assistance was first requested on September 9 following damage that occurred in the southern and central parts of the state from a tornado, severe straight line winds, torrential rains and flooding that swept through the counties beginning Aug. 4. Up to 10 inches of rain fell over a 23-hour period in some locations, quickly leading to severe flooding. On September 24, FEMA rejected that request. On October 2, a letter was sent to FEMA appealing the decision.

Individual assistance was requested for Brown, Clark, Floyd, Franklin, Jackson, Jennings, Marion, Ripley and Rush counties. Decatur County was added to the appeal. Individual assistance can include grants for housing, possessions, vehicles, counseling, unemployment and U.S. Small Business Administration loans.

Public assistance was requested for Brown, Decatur, Floyd, Franklin, Jefferson, Jennings, Owen, Parke, Ripley and Switzerland counties. Public assistance means state government and local governments and certain non-profit organizations in these counties would be eligible to apply for federal assistance to pay 75 percent of the approved cost of debris removal, emergency services related to the disaster and repairing or replacing damaged public facilities, such as roads, buildings and electrical cooperatives.

***IDHS: leadership for a safe and secure Indiana.***

For immediate release: Nov 09, 2009  
Posted by: [DHS]  
Contact: John Erickson or Rachel Meyer

Phone: (317) 234-6713

Email: [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov)

## **SBA grants Governor's request for disaster loans**

---

INDIANAPOLIS – Governor Mitch Daniels today received word that the U.S. Small Business Administration has granted his request for an SBA disaster declaration for Clark, Floyd and Jennings county residents and businesses affected by the severe weather Aug. 4-9.

The declaration also covers the adjacent counties of Bartholomew, Decatur, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Ripley, Scott and Washington in Indiana, and the counties of Jefferson, Oldham and Trimble in Kentucky.

SBA offers low-interest loans up to \$200,000 to qualified homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible to apply for loans up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property. For small businesses and most private non-profit organizations of all sizes, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.

Businesses and non-profit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. The SBA also provides mitigation funds to disaster victims based on 20 percent of the verified physical damage. These funds are designed to help borrowers pay for protective measures to minimize damage of the same kind in the future.

Individuals and businesses may obtain information and loan applications by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. EDT or by sending an email to [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov). Business loan applications can also be downloaded from the SBA website at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance).

Victims may apply for disaster loans from SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is January 5, 2010. The deadline to return economic injury applications is August 6, 2010.

More information will be forthcoming about SBA's temporary Disaster Loan Outreach Center locations, where applicants can get answers to questions about the SBA's disaster loan program, explanations about the application process and help completing their applications

***IDHS: leadership for a safe and secure Indiana.***

For immediate release: Nov 12, 2009  
Posted by: [DHS]  
Contact: John Erickson or Rachel Meyer  
Phone: (317) 234-6713  
Email: [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov)

## **SBA's Deadline for Economic Injury Disaster Loans for Private Non-Profit Organizations in Indiana is December 5**

---

ATLANTA – The U.S. Small Business Administration reminds eligible Private Non-Profit Organizations (PNPs) of the December 5, 2009 deadline to submit disaster loan applications for Economic Injury caused by a severe winter storm that occurred from January 26 - 28, 2009.

Private Non-Profit Organizations (PNPs) located in Clark, Crawford, Dubois, Floyd, Gibson, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Jennings, Lawrence, Ohio, Orange, Perry, Posey, Ripley, Scott, Spencer, Switzerland, Vanderburgh, Warrick and Washington in the State of Indiana are eligible to apply to SBA. Eligible PNPs are those that provide non-critical services such as: food kitchens, homeless shelters, museums, libraries, community centers, schools and colleges.

The SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help meet working capital needs, such as ongoing operating expenses for PNP organizations of all sizes. Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.

Interest rates are as low as 4 percent with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition.

Disaster loan information and application forms may be obtained by calling the SBA's Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (for the hearing-impaired 1-800-877-8339) Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST or by sending an email to [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov). Those affected by the disaster may apply for disaster loans from SBA's secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>. Applications can also be downloaded from [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance). Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

The deadline to return economic injury applications is December 5, 2009.

***IDHS: leadership for a safe and secure Indiana.***

For immediate release: Nov 13, 2009  
Posted by: [DHS]  
Contact: John Erickson or Rachel Meyer  
Phone: (317) 234-6713  
Email: [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov)

## **FEMA Awards Grants Totaling \$1.5 Million to the City of Fort Wayne**

---

### **Funds from the two grants will be used to acquire and remove 40 flood-prone homes**

CHICAGO – The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has approved two Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) projects totaling nearly \$1.5 million for the city of Fort Wayne, Ind. The funds will be used to acquire and remove 40 homes susceptible to annual flooding.

The two HMGP grants, one for \$749,513 and the second for \$745,880, will be available once a final agreement is signed among the city of Fort Wayne, FEMA and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS). HMGP provides grants to state and local governments to implement long-term risk reduction measures. Through HMGP, FEMA will pay the 75 percent federal share of the nearly \$1.5 million projects, with the city of Fort Wayne providing the remaining 25 percent of the project cost. The IDHS administers the mitigation program.

"Mitigation projects such as these benefit residents and communities affected by disasters," said Janet M. Odesheo, acting regional administrator, FEMA Region V. "These acquisitions in Fort Wayne will reduce future structural losses and lessen the financial impact on individuals and governments following a disaster."

"Indiana continues to recover from the long-term effects of the 2008 flooding. This assistance is a key step for those who had their homes damaged or destroyed. It's important for them and their community's recovery," said IDHS Executive Director Joseph Wainscott. "The partnership and

teamwork among the city of Fort Wayne, IDHS and FEMA helped provide this much needed relief.”

HMGP funds will be used to remove these repetitively damaged homes from flood prone areas, returning the area to open space in perpetuity. HMGP projects like this are the cornerstone of disaster prevention efforts, and illustrate the importance of local, state and federal governments working together for the benefit of citizens.

FEMA’s mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards.

***IDHS: leadership for a safe and secure Indiana.***

For immediate release: Nov 18, 2009

Posted by: [DHS]

Contact: John Erickson or Rachel Meyer

Phone: (317) 234-6713

Email: [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov)

## **IDHS Hires New Building Code Compliance Officer**

---

INDIANAPOLIS – Scott Perez, an experienced architect, is Indiana’s new building code compliance officer. He will oversee building construction and fire code enforcement, elevator and amusement ride inspections, review of construction plans and boiler and pressure vessel inspections for the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS).

He has a bachelor’s and master’s degree in architecture from the University of Illinois and a master’s of business administration from Butler University. He graduated from Pike High School and is currently a resident of Indianapolis.

He also will coordinate enforcement efforts with all divisions of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security and other state agencies which include the State Department of Health, Department of Natural Resources, Department of Education and Family and Social Services Administration.

“We are pleased to have Scott join the team at IDHS,” said Joe Wainscott, executive director of IDHS. “His experience and creativity will be a great asset to the building safety branch of IDHS.”

"Scott has developed a strong professional relationship with the community that he has served," said Jim Greeson, State Fire Marshal and Fire & Building Safety Division Director at IDHS. "We look forward to his expertise in architecture, as well as his skills in leadership, business management and development, project management, and process development. He will be a great asset to the citizens of Indiana."

Perez has nearly 20 years of experience as a licensed architect. He co-founded fulcrum STUDIOS, Inc. in 2001, and was responsible for financial review and fiscal analysis, and managing administration for the office including human resources and legal. In 2008, fulcrum STUDIOS, Inc. joined Odle McGuire Shook, where Perez served as the Director of Operations.

He was named Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) Indianapolis Chapter member of the year in 2005. He is leading an environmentally friendly effort with Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED), a Green Building Rating System that provides a suite of standards for environmentally sustainable construction. As a LEED Accredited Professional, Perez attained experience on project reviews and analysis for possible long-term savings for energy-efficient design. He was involved on several projects analyzing energy efficiency, helping clients review a benefit analysis regarding initial up-front costs versus long-term operations costs, human resource implications, and implications on the environment.

Perez is also currently participating in the Stanley K. Lacy Executive Leadership Program as a member of Class XXXIV. The Lacy Leadership Association is Indianapolis's premier leadership network and provides a platform for members to address and advance community issues; and host networking, education and service events.

***IDHS: leadership for a safe and secure Indiana.***

For immediate release: Nov 18, 2009

Posted by: [DHS]

Contact: John Erickson or Rachel Meyer

Phone: (317) 234-6713

Email: [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov)

## **SBA Extends Time at Disaster Loan Outreach Centers in Southeastern Indiana**

---

**ATLANTA** – Residents and businesses affected by severe storms and flooding that occurred Aug. 4-9 in Indiana, still have time to take advantage of the opportunity to visit one of the U.S. Small Business Administration's temporary Disaster Loan Outreach Centers where they can apply for low-interest disaster loans from SBA. Completing the loan application and returning it is a crucial step toward disaster recovery.

The declaration covers Clark, Floyd and Jennings counties and the adjacent counties of Bartholomew, Decatur, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Ripley, Scott and Washington in Indiana; and Jefferson, Oldham and Trimble in Kentucky.

SBA established the Disaster Loan Outreach Centers to ensure that qualified individuals and businesses receive the help they need to apply for low-interest disaster loan funds. "Assisting individuals and business owners to recover from a disaster is our primary mission," said Frank Skaggs, Director of SBA Field Operations Center East. "We are encouraging anyone affected by this disaster to visit a Center while we still have staff here and obtain individual assistance with completing their loan applications."

SBA's customer service representatives are on hand at the Disaster Loan Outreach Centers located in the following communities and open as indicated:

Clark County	Floyd County	Jennings County
Clarksville Town Hall  Executive Conference Room (2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor )  2000 Broadway  Clarksville, IN 47129	Floyd County Emergency Management  1613 East Spring Street  Suite #4  New Albany, IN 47150	Jennings County Emergency Management  1001 Rodgers Park Drive  North Vernon, IN 47265
Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm , Saturday, November 21, 9 am to noon  Closes: Tuesday, November 24, at close of business	Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm , Saturday, November 21, 9 am to noon  Closes: Tuesday, November 24, at close of business	Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:00 am to 4:30 pm  Closes: Thursday, November 19, at close of business

Loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property. Businesses and non-profit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets.

-more-

For small businesses and most private non-profit organizations of all sizes, are also eligible for SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.

Interest rates are as low as 2.750 percent for homeowners and renters, and 4 percent for businesses, with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition.

Individuals and businesses unable to visit the Centers in person may obtain information and loan applications by calling the SBA's Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST, or by sending an e-mail to [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov). Business loan applications can also be downloaded from the SBA Web site at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance). Completed applications should be returned to the Center or mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155.

Indianans may apply for disaster loans from SBA's secure Web site at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is **January 5, 2010**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **August 6, 2010**.

###

For immediate release: Nov 19, 2009  
Posted by: [DHS]  
Contact: John Erickson or Rachel Meyer  
Phone: (317) 234-6713  
Email: [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov)

## **State Fire Marshal Urges Fire Safety During Thanksgiving Holiday**

### **Food preparers asked to take extra precautions when using turkey fryers**

INDIANAPOLIS – As the Thanksgiving holiday approaches, Indiana State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson urges Hoosiers to be safe when preparing Thanksgiving dinner. According to the National Fire Protection Association, U.S. firefighters responded to roughly 1,300 home fires involving cooking equipment on Thanksgiving in 2007, roughly three times the daily average of cooking fires.

"The holiday season is a special time of year, and the last thing we want to see is the festivities ruined by a devastating fire," Greeson said. "Nearly all firefighters have witnessed the heartbreaking way a fire can destroy a family's holiday in a matter of just a few minutes. Following some simple, common-sense actions could make the difference between a memorable holiday season and a horrible nightmare."

In recent years, deep fried turkeys have become a popular staple at the dinner table on Thanksgiving, but the preparation can be very dangerous. Last year, cooking was the leading cause of residential fires in the state of Indiana, resulting in 1,368 fires, 23 injuries, at least one death and more than half million dollars in property damage.



To ensure you and your family have a safe Thanksgiving holiday, State Fire Marshal Greeson offers the following safety tips:

- Turkey fryers should always be used outdoors a safe distance from buildings and any other material that can burn.
- Never use turkey fryers on wooden decks or in garages.
- Make sure the fryers are used on a flat surface to reduce accidental tipping.
- Never leave the fryer unattended.
- Make sure the turkey is completely thawed and be careful with marinades. Oil and water don't mix, and water causes oil to spill over, causing a fire or even an explosion hazard.
- Keep an all-purpose fire extinguisher nearby. Never use water to extinguish a grease fire. If the fire increases, immediately call 9-1-1 for help.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, or broiling food. If you leave the kitchen for even a short period, turn off the stove.
- If you are simmering, baking, roasting, or boiling food, check it regularly, remain in the home while food is cooking, and use a timer to remind you that you are cooking.
- Keep anything that could catch fire (oven mitts, wooden utensils, food packaging, towels, curtains, etc.) away from your stovetop.
- Keep a lid nearby when you're cooking to smother small grease fires. Smother the fire by sliding the lid over the pan and turn off the stovetop. Leave the pan covered until it is completely cooled.
- For an oven fire turn off the heat and keep the door closed.

***IDHS: leadership for a safe and secure Indiana.***

For immediate release: Nov 23, 2009

Posted by: [DHS]

Contact: John Erickson or Rachel Meyer

Phone: (317) 234-6713

Email: [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov)

**IDHS encourages preparedness and safety gifts for friends and loved ones this holiday season**

---

INDIANAPOLIS – The holiday shopping season is underway and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and the Office of the State Fire Marshal are encouraging Hoosiers to consider giving home preparedness and safety gifts to their friends and relatives during this holiday season.

“We know that the ability of individuals and families to be self-sustaining for at least three days would be vital during the response to a large scale disaster or emergency,” said Joe Wainscott, executive director of IDHS. “Emergency Supply Kits in households are an important part of this preparedness. An Emergency Supply Kit is a collection of basic supplies that are stored together in case of an emergency. If you know of a family or individual that does not already have an emergency supply kit, these would be great gift ideas.”



- NOAA Weather Alert radio with extra batteries
- A disaster kit for the home, office or dormitory with such items as a first aid kit, bottled water (one gallon per person/per day—three day minimum), non-perishable food, blankets, flashlight and batteries
- A safety kit for the automobile with such items as jumper cables, flashlight, blankets, sand and a

small shovel

Other items such as medicines, extra clothing and pet care items might also be included in a kit. The items should be stored together in a container. Even if you cannot assemble all of the items as part of your gift, you can purchase the container and some of the items to at least help get the kit started. You can then include a printout of other items that can be included in the kit. This information, including a printable checklist, can be found on the IDHS website, at [www.in.gov/dhs/getprepared.htm](http://www.in.gov/dhs/getprepared.htm).

Indiana State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson says home safety gifts, such as smoke alarms, carbon monoxide detectors and fire extinguishers, are also thoughtful presents that are proven to save lives.

“If you know someone who doesn’t have a working smoke alarm or carbon monoxide detector in their home, these items should be at the top of your gift list,” said Greeson. “Smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors are both proven life-savers, and what could be a better gift than something that protects the lives of the ones you love?”

Other fire safety and prevention gift ideas suggested by the State Fire Marshal include ABC-rated fire extinguishers, foldable ladders for second-story emergency escapes, and flameless scented candles.

Most preparedness and gift items can be found in hardware and department stores.

Attachments: Audio clips of Executive Director Joe Wainscott and State Fire Marshal Jim Greeson ([SFM – Holiday Gift Ideas](#), [ED – Assembling a Kit](#), [ED – Emergency Supply Kit](#), [ED – Weather Radio](#))

***IDHS: leadership for a safe and secure Indiana.***

For immediate release: Nov 25, 2009

Posted by: [DHS]

Contact: John Erickson

Phone: (317) 234-6713

Email: [pio@dhs.in.gov](mailto:pio@dhs.in.gov)

## **SBA Closes Disaster Loan Outreach Centers**

---

### **Southeastern Indiana Residents Can Still Apply for Loans Online, By Phone**

Even though U.S. Small Business Administration Disaster Outreach Centers in Clark, Floyd and Jennings counties have closed, individuals and businesses may still obtain information and loan applications online or by a toll free number. Included in the disaster loan program are the adjacent counties of Bartholomew, Decatur, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Ripley, Scott and Washington in Indiana; and Jefferson, Oldham and Trimble in Kentucky.

SBA's Customer Service Center can be contacted at 1-800-659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the hearing impaired), Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. EST, or by sending an e-mail to [disastercustomerservice@sba.gov](mailto:disastercustomerservice@sba.gov). Business loan applications can also be downloaded from the SBA Web site at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance).

Completed applications should be mailed to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155. The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is January 5, 2010. The deadline to return economic injury applications is August 6, 2010.

On November 4, SBA made loans available in response to Gov. Mitch Daniels' request. Loans are available for homeowners, renters, small businesses and most private non-profit organizations.

Loans up to \$200,000 are available for homeowners to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate. Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

Businesses and non-profit organizations of any size may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets.

The SBA also provides mitigation funds to disaster victims up to 20 percent of the verified physical damage. These funds are designed to help borrowers pay for protective measures to minimize damage of the same kind in the future.

For small businesses and most private non-profit organizations of all sizes, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any physical property damage.

Interest rates are as low as 2.750 percent for homeowners and renters, and 4 percent for businesses, with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based on each applicant's financial condition.

***Leadership for a Safe and Secure Indiana***